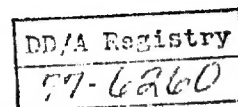


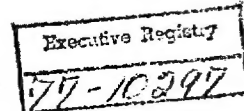
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In 2020 on 43 years

10 DEC 1977

1 DEC 1977



DCI Signature & Stamp Self-approving

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Acting Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Michael J. Malanick
Acting Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT: Request for Continued Classification of
Classified Documents Over 30 Years Old

1. Action Requested: Your signature is requested on the attached memorandum to the Archivist of the United States giving notice of your decision to continue classification of the OSS documents from Record Groups 38, 43, 51, 59, 74, 84, 85, 92, 107, 165, 169, 175, 208, 218, 226, 227, 238, 253, 260, 263, 289, 313, 319, 330, 331, 332, 334, 338, 353, 373, and 407. Classification is to be extended until 31 December 2020.

2. Background: According to Section 5E of Executive Order 11652, all documents and information bearing national security classifications become automatically declassified 30 full years from date of origin unless certified in writing as requiring continued protection by the head of the originating agency or functional successor. The only criteria for retaining classification are continuing national security sensitivity and the danger of personal jeopardy to an individual.

The Executive Order further charges the Archivist of the United States with the responsibility for systematically reviewing such records no later than 30 full years from their date of origin. In accordance with this instruction, a Records Declassification Division (NND) was established within the National Archives and Records Service (NARS) in 1972 to conduct this review. The initial effort of NND was directed toward reviewing the approximately 200 million pages of classified material originated prior to 1 January 1946. The records to be reviewed are those which have been officially designated to be of permanent historical value by NARS and which are in its custody. According to law, NARS is the agency of government responsible for the preservation of historical records for public use.

This review by NND/NARS of records originated through 1945, conducted in accordance with guidelines furnished by the originating agencies or their official successors, is virtually complete. In the course of the review, thousands of pages of material originated by, or clearly attributable to, the Office of Strategic Services were located. These records consist of reports, correspondence, memoranda, and other papers furnished by the OSS to other government agencies as well as papers originated by other agencies which contain information attributable to the OSS. Such material was randomly located throughout the permanent documentary holdings (record groups) maintained by NARS in the National Archives building in Washington, D.C. and the custodial division for permanently valuable records located at the Washington National Records Center in Suitland, Maryland. The record groups containing such OSS material included components of the War, Navy, and State Department; joint and combined military agencies established during World War II; the Bureau of the Budget; and such once-important but now defunct wartime agencies as the Foreign Economic Administration and the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

Because NARS lacked comprehensive declassification authority for OSS material, the CIA was requested to furnish reviewers with the power to act upon the documents located by the NND/NARS reviewers. To honor this request, the Agency furnished two senior intelligence officers from the Information and Privacy Staff of DDA and three annuitants from the DDO project for reviewing OSS records still in Agency custody. These personnel worked closely with NND/NARS from 1973 until early 1977. Other offices of the Agency were periodically called upon to review specialized records.

Although Agency reviewers authorized declassification for most of the OSS material, they determined that security classifications should be retained on several thousand documents. These decisions were made because the documents in question contained specific information relating to identifiable human intelligence sources, unique intelligence collection and operational equipment, intelligence collected by means which today would require compartmentization, foreign intelligence liaison arrangements, covert collection organizations, budgetary and financial data for American intelligence activities, and other material of continuing sensitivity.

The established medium for the proper certification of documents requiring continued protection is the Standard Form 325. An unclassified identification of each document retaining classification is made on these forms. Following approval by the appropriate head of agency, they are forwarded to the Archivist of the United States and are available for public inspection at NARS. In the case of a large number of such forms, they may be certified en bloc with a covering letter. The Standard Forms 325 so

covered by the proposed letter to the Archivist were prepared in the Records Review Branch of the DDA Information Systems Analysis Staff.

3. Recommendation: As NARS has asked for final Agency action on these forms, your signature is therefore requested on the attached memorandum.



Michael J. Maranick

STATINTL

Attachment: a/s

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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